

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY International Application No. PCT/FR 03/02146
EXAMINATION REPORT – SEPARATE SHEET**

Concerning point V

Justified statement according to regulation 66.2(a)(ii) with respect to novelty, inventive activity and the possibility of industrial application; references and explanations to support this statement.

1. The following documents are referenced:

D1: GB-A-2 299 497 (D H HADEN PLC) 9 October 1996 (1996-10-09)
D2: EP-A-0 895 742 (SEB SA) 10 February 1999 (1999-02-10)

2. Document D1, which is considered to be the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1, describes (the references between parentheses apply to this document):

an electric kettle including a power supply base (20):

- comprising electrical connection means (24) suitable for being connected to an external electrical source,
- and a manual control button (34-36) moveable between a resting position and an activation position,

and a receptacle (10), removable from the power supply base, comprising

- a container (10) suitable for containing a liquid to be heated,
- an electrical heating device (40) suitable for heating the liquid in the container, and
- complementary electrical connection means (19) that are suitable, when the receptacle is placed on the power supply base, for cooperating with the electrical connection means and supplying electrical power to the heating device.

Consequently, the subject matter of claim 1 differs from this known kettle in that:

- the receptacle includes control means suitable for cutting the electrical power supply to the electrical heating device and that include a switch moveable between an open position and a closed position, and
- the kettle includes transmission means suitable, when the receptacle is placed on the base, for shifting the switch from its open position to its closed position when the manual control button is shifted from its resting position to its activation position.

2.1 The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem that the present invention is intended to solve can therefore be considered to be that of producing a kettle in which the manual control button does not detract from the appearance of the receptacle and is easily accessible.

2.2 The solution to this problem, as proposed in claim 1 of the present application, is considered to involve an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)), because the known kettles of this type do not show or suggest such a switch in the receptacle.

3. Claims 2-17 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore also satisfy, as such, the PCT requirements of novelty and inventive step.